



Express Mail No. EV 519 866 878 US

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R.§1.102	Attorney Docket	KEMP-009			
Address to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	Applicant	DECLERCK, JÈRÔME MARIE JOSEPH			
	Serial Number	10/618,565 July 11, 2003			
	Filing Date				
	Group Art Unit	2621			
	Examiner Name				
	Title:	"REGISTRATION OF MULTI-			

Sir:

The instant application was filed on July 11, 2003. To date, no substantive examination has occurred in this application. This is a Petition to Make Special, in accordance with 37 C.F.R.§1.102.

Applicants hereby request that the instant application be granted special status and that examination be advanced because the invention may be used in the diagnosis, treatment or prevention of cancer.

The invention described in this application relates to the registration of images of different modalities. For example, one modality may provide accurate structural information, such as an X-ray image or magnetic resonance image (MRI), and the other modality may provide functional information (such as metabolic rate information), e.g. by PET or SPECT imaging. Imaging modalities such as X-ray imaging are useful in that they give accurate structural information (for example the skeleton is clearly visible and so the position of structures relative to the bones can be established clearly). But soft structures such as tumors do not show up particularly well on X-ray or anatomical MRI. Soft structures such as tumors show up very well on functional images such as PET or SPECT images where a radioactive marker is introduced into the patient, this marker collecting in regions of high metabolic activity such as tumors. However, a PET or SPECT image does not give accurate positional information because, in general, structures with clearly defined locations, such as bones, do not show up.

A clinician examining a functional image such as PET or SPECT image needs to know whether areas of high metabolic activity are images of structures which normally have high metabolic activity (such as muscles being used in breathing or talking), or naturally high take-up (e.g. liver and kidneys), or whether they are abnormal, such as tumors. To assess this, it is necessary to know where the structure

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is in the body, this is difficult because others structures whose location is clearly known do not show up very well.

According to aspects of the subject invention, a functional image may be registered (aligned) and overlaid with a structural image obtained from, for example, X-ray imaging, e.g., by using a combination of emission and transmission images. The subject invention may be used to determine where a high metabolic activity structure is in the body, thereby aiding in the identification of the structure. The subject invention may be used to diagnosis cancer by enabling the clinician to determine with more accuracy the location of a structure showing high metabolic activity. This allows it to be identified as tumor/non-tumor, and also enables the precise location of the tumor to be determined.

The subject invention may be used in the treatment of cancer. For example, a surgeon planning surgical intervention, for example to remove a tumor, needs to know the precise location of the tumour in the body. The subject invention may be used to observe the location of a tumour much more clearly in relation to the skeleton. The surgeon may therefore plan the surgery with greater accuracy.

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Furthermore, the subject invention may also be used in the treatment of cancer by radiotherapy procedures. For example, if treatment is to be by way of radiotherapy, it is advantageous if the irradiating radiation is confined to as small an area as possible. Ideally the radiation should be confined to the tumour itself to avoid damage to surrounding tissue. One way of achieving this is by using several intersecting beams of radiation, which intersect only on the tumour. Thus the individual beams may have a low intensity, but the intensity in the region of the tumour is high because of the intersection of the several beams. Planning such radiation treatment in this way again requires an accurate knowledge of the location and size of the tumour, which may be determined using the subject invention.

Fig. 13, e.g., shows the use of the subject invention in the detection and location of tumors. Figure 13, shows a cross-section through the body of a patient and is a superposition of an x-ray image and a SPECT image. The bright structure located to the left-hand region of the slice and at the intersection of the orthogonal lines is an image of a tumour.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that examination of the instant application be made special and advanced.

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This Petition is accompanied by the requisite fee under 37 C.F.R.§1.17(i). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number KEMP009.

Respectfully submitted, BOZICEVIC, FIELD & FRANCIS LLP

By:

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Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.				Examiner Name				-	-		
				Art Unit 2621						······································	
Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27			_	Alt Offic							
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SUBMITTED BY							Complete (If app				
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Name (Print/Type) Carol M. La\$alle	1	(/	ttome	y/Agent/		39,74	0	Telephone	(650) 833-7	7774	
Signature	fall							Date	11/10/2004		

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		Application Number	10/618,565					
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TRANSMITTA	_	First Named Inventor	DECLERCK, JÈRÔME MARIE JOSEPH					
FORM		Group Art Unit	2621					
(to be used for all correspondence after in	itial filing)	Examiner Name						
Total Number of Pages in This Submiss	ion	Attorney Docket Number	KEMP-009					
ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)								
Signing Attorney/Agent (Reg. No.) CAROL M. LASAL BOZIGEVIC, FIELI	Assign (for an Drawir Licens Petition Provisi Power Chang Addres Termir Reque CD, No Remarks TURE OF APPL LE, REG. NO. 39,7	ament Papers Application) ag(s) ing-related Papers in to Convert to a sional Application of Attorney, Revocation of Correspondence as all Disclaimer st for Refund umber of CD(s	After Allowance Communication to Group Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Proprietary Information Status Letter Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Petition to Make Special; postcard					
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Date November 10, 2004								

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